THE MERCY OF GOD PSALM 6 Eyanrin, Sunday (Evangelist)

In continuation of our new series of the study of the Book of Psalms, last week our Minister Bro. E. Adeoye took us through chapter. one of psalm, on the topic: "**TWO WAY OF LIFE CONTRASTED**". He emphasized greatly on the two ways: "*the righteous and obedient receiving a blessing*".

while *"the unrighteous and disobedient receiving condemnation"*. He emphasized that we should always practice righteousness and be blessed. He concluded that we must try to seek for the lost and bring them back to Christ. Today, we shall be looking at the 6th chapter of the Book of Psalms. The Book gives its author as King David (To the chief Musician: A Psalm of David.). *Psalm 6* is believed to be written when King David was facing different challenges in his kingdom and was also ill. The intention in writing these psalms was that it would be for anyone suffering from sickness or distress. It is also for those suffering from the oppression of enemies.

Understanding the state of challenges, he is facing relating to distress caused by relational problem. The Psalmist acknowledged his weakness(sins) before God, and declared that in the absence of God, he expressed hopelessness. Hence, he cry to God for mercy. In this last days, our emergence of righteousness come to activeness by the righteousness of God that we are entitled to Salvation through faith in Christ Jesus, The Scriptures revealed that Jesus was made sin for us so that we can be able to bear the righteousness that cometh by faith.

Verse 1: O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

The verse describes the language of a heart truly humbled under humbling providences, of a broken and contrite spirit under great afflictions, sent on purpose to awaken conscience and mortify corruption. Those who are ready for mercy, under God's rebukes, sow in tears, as David does here.

This calls for acknowledging our weakness before God, not only in times of challenges or when God discipline to make us yield to correction. The scripture says without sin, there won't be a punishment (*Rom. 5:13*) but What God expected from individual life is submission to Him, therefore we must lean on God always, and on His Grace to overcome our challenges of life.

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Verses 2 and 3: Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed.3 My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long?

The verse draws our need to pray to God since we have no strength of our own, the scripture says by no man strength shall no man prevail. David's statement in this verse spoke of his weakness and explained what He pass through to God, most of the time many believers assume that since God knows everything, they have no need to express to God, what we are passing through and cry for God's mercy when it is most appropriate, not when we have exhausted our energy in dealing with challenges all by ourselves. God should not be our last hope, but the first choice to call upon to address our challenges.

God is merciful and he is always ready to answer our prayer always, there is also the need for patience when we seek his face for a solution, we should not also fail in place of patience.

Verse 4: Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake.

This verse lay more emphasis on David hunger for the strength of God, remind us of wisdom which says, If you faint in the day of adversity your strength is small, our level of strength in difficult situation determine how fasting enable us to overcome our challenges. we have drawn from God. the strength that prevails is the strength we have drawn from God,

Jesus said, be of good cheer, because I have overcome the world (*John 16:33*). We need more than physical strength if we fail in place of strength; we need more strength to treat us the way we want.

Verses 5-7: For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks? I am weary with my groaning; all the night makes my bed swim; I water my couch with my tears. Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxes old because of all mine enemies.

The verse describes the agony and pain of David, reminded God of his will for mankind. The reason is to drawn attention to his covenant and promise because one of the attributes of God is unending faithful, that can't change for any course regardless of unfaithfulness, as well as kindness and love that endure forever, thus revealing the word of God which is enough to make us whole and cater for our needs. The verse is calling our attention to how God valued praise of his people.

In *Acts* 16:16 – 40, Paul and Silas was put into prison for the ministration of God's word, and they Prayed and Sang to the glory of God. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains were loose.

Verses 8-10: Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the LORD hath heard the voice of my weeping. The LORD hath heard my supplication; the LORD will receive my prayer. Let all mine enemies be ashamed and sore vexed: let them return and be ashamed suddenly.

What a sudden change is here for the better! He that was groaning and weeping, and giving up that all is gone, here looks and speaks very pleasantly. Having made his requests known to God, and lodged his case with him, he is very confident that the issues placed before God will be good and his sorrows turned into joy.

The essence of faith is not established on the volume of prayer we can pray in difficult times, but the commitment to confidence and love we have for Him, without depending on our desire and expectations from God.

Conclusion

In singing and praying over our petitions, we must give glory to God, as a God who is always ready to hear prayer, we must believe and own his goodness to us in hearing our prayers and must encourage ourselves to wait upon him and to trust in Him in the greatest straits and difficult times.

This bring to mind what the Scriptures says in (*James 5:13*), "*is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms*". This is to confirm that we should not under rate the power of singing in times like this. Brethren, this is a challenge to us all. God is not a man that He should lie.

Another verse for consideration is (*James 5:17-18*). Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

Brethren, God is faithful and merciful, He will always listen to our prayers as He did to Elijah and others. He is God, He Has never change. *Mal. 3:6, Heb. 13:8*.